

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

UNCLAS ADANA 000157

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PINS](#) [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [TU](#) [ADANA](#)

SUBJECT: SOUTHEAST TURKEY PRESS SUMMARY FOR AUGUST 26, 2005

This is the Southeastern Turkey press summary for August 26, 2005. Please note that Turkish press reports often contain errors or exaggerations; AmConsulate Adana does not vouch for the accuracy of the reports summarized here.

POLITICAL, SECURITY, HUMAN RIGHTS

RADIKAL / ZAMAN / HURRIYET: Ministry of Interior inspectors have completed their examinations of the following cases in the Diyarbakir Municipality: municipality providing ambulance service to PKK terrorists killed during military operations, and municipality providing buses to DEHAP members, who were celebrating the birthday of the terrorist leader Abdullah Ocalan. As a result of the report's findings, the Ministry will initiate an investigation against Diyarbakir mayor Osman Baydemir and seven municipality employees.

SABAH / HURRIYET: Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Matt Bryza, who is currently in Turkey to discuss issues on the fight against the PKK, Cyprus and the EU, reportedly extended strong support to Turkey in its fight to counter PKK terrorism.

HURRIYET: The daily quotes statements from a letter written to Abdullah Ocalan by a former Ocalan chief aide, Semdin Sakik, who was caught in northern Iraq in 1998. Writing from prison this month, Sakik reportedly advised Ocalan to lay down arms.

ZAMAN: Anthrax disease incidences have been on the increase in Turkey's Eastern region. As a result of vaccination treatment, the disease has been eradicated in the Altunbulak village of the Kars province and the quarantine was removed. However, the quarantine has been going on in three settlement areas: Bitlis's Yaylacik village, Mus's Agarti village and Kars's Baskoy village.

ZAMAN / RADIKAL : MIT intelligence agency of Turkey initiated a probe into broadcasting companies that applied to RTUK (Supreme Board of Radio and Television) for permission to broadcast in Kurdish. Reportedly, while evaluating the applications, RTUK will heed the information from the MIT.

ZAMAN: The daily draws attention to the increasing number of people applying for visas at the Syrian Consulate in Gaziantep and bases this interest in Syria on recent developments in relations between Syria and Turkey. The Syrian Consulate in Gaziantep is issuing 300 visas every day and 10,000 people have obtained Syrian visas since June 17.

ZAMAN: Nancy McEldowney, US Charge d'Affaires, said during her visit to the State Minister Kursad Tuzmen that Turkey has been "impatient" on the issue of PKK; yet, she added that she understood the causes of that impatience. McEldowney further said that the U.S., working together with Iraq and Turkey, would do all it can in the struggle against the PKK.

OZGUR GUNDEM: DEHAP National Chairperson Tuncer Bakirhan will not be able to attend a conference titled "Turkey-EU relationships and the Kurds" because he has been barred from going abroad by the court.

OZGUR GUNDEM: Six attorneys of Abdullah Ocalan applied to the European Court of Human Rights to end the isolation of their client in a prison cell in Imrali island.

REID